

July/August 2008

Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

From the Administrator

Kathy Tooker

Future Search for Libraries: Finding Common Ground

Future Search is something you may have heard about or maybe you were one of many who participated in a focus group to gather data for it, or you might have been one of the people who attended the conference held on June 9/10 at St. Benedict's Retreat Center in Schuyler. The purpose of the Future Search Conference was to bring people together with the intention of bringing a fresh perspective to Nebraska library service needs and fostering direction, partnerships and collaboration.

If you weren't invited, it was not because we didn't think that you had a lot to offer, it was just because there was limited space and funding. We hope you were able to be a part of a focus group and shared your input in that manner. Of the 80 people attending the conference, over 25% were non-librarians. Included in this most important group were representatives from banking, education, city government, library trustees, an architect, an attorney, social service agencies, and four high schools students. Facilitators, Becky Schreiber and John Shannon of Shannon Schreiber Associates, guided the group through a process where the participants looked at the past then a scan of the today's environment and finally a look at the preferred future for libraries. Out of this came shared vision statements and potential projects.

The conference was only two days but the work on this projects will continue. At the end of the conference, a task force of volunteers was formed to work on a list of potential projects. This task force will be meeting for the first time in early August.

In addition to getting a lot of work done, people had ample opportunity to network and have a good time. One participant remarked that, library conferences were much more fun than the ones he usually attends.

Funding for the conference was provided by Nebraska Library Commission, Peter Kiewit Foundation, Regional Library Systems, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

For more information a wiki had been created at www.nlc.state.ne.us/wikis/fs. A print report will be issued at a later date.

Vision Statements June 10, 2008

The library is a vital hub, woven into the fabric of the greater community, responding to and empowering people through local and global connections.

Service – Nebraska libraries lead a magnificent metamorphosis of superior customer service, humming with activities and learning, unencumbered by walls or political boundaries.

Embrace the richness of a global community.

[continued on page 3]

Inside this Issue

From the Administrator.....	page 1
New Board Members.....	page 2
Diamond Earring Raffle/Board Mtg. Dates..	pages 3
System News.....	pages 4 & 5
Grand Opening, Neihardt Day.....	page 6
Copyright, One Book	page 7
FYI.....	page 8
Resources for Youth.....	page 9
NLA News.....	page 10
Worth Checking Out	page 11
Bits & Pieces.....	page 12
Wii Loan Agreement	page 12
Trustee Column.....	page 13
Wii Loan Agreement.....	page 14
Preconference Flyer.....	pages 15-16
Casino Royale.....	page 17
Upcoming Events.....	page 18

The *Eastern Express* is available online 6 times per year.

- Jan/Feb
- Mar/Apr
- May/June
- Aug/Sept
- Nov/Dec

ELS Website

<http://www.elsne.org>

Eastern Library System Board Members

ELS members have elected three new board members.

- Lowen Kruse, former Nebraska State Senator
- Gayle Roberts, youth services librarian at the Blair Public Library
- Rosa Schmidt, director of the Oakland Public Library

Thank you to outgoing board members

- Lupe Mier, director of the Bellevue Public Library
- Sam McMullen, representing Burt County
- Becky Sims, director of the Offutt AFB Library



We continue to have the best Board of Directors in the state.

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We reserve the right to edit or refuse all contributions. **Editor:** Nancy Meyer
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System Board:

Robin Bernstein
Scott Berryman
Lowen Kruse
Denise Lawver
Mary Jo Mack
Joyce Neujahr
Marie Reidelbach
Gayle Roberts
Rosa Schmidt
John Seyfarth
Jan Therien
Carrie Turner

Serving - Burt, Cuming, Dodge, Douglas, Saryp, Saunders and Washington Counties

System Staff

Kathleen Tooker, Administrator
ktooker@alltel.net

Nancy Meyer, Administrative Assistant
nrmeyer@alltel.net

[Vision Statements-continued from page one]

My library provides an inviting and welcoming front porch where the community comes to learn, play and investigate. People come first in this nurturing and enriching gathering place for all.

Increasing the visibility of Nebraska libraries through listening, communicating, and delivering services to enhance our communities.

Core Values – The library champions universal access to information for purposes of personal and community empowerment through communication, collaboration and customization.

Going green starts @ your library®: the library models environmentally sustainable practices, places and policies, and shares these with the community.

The staff is key to the success of the library: cultivate our staff.

Facilities and Buildings – A convenient, vibrant place to discover life's possibilities.

Education – Our library is an innovative, vibrant place of discovery where collaborative learning spaces encourage sharing of ideas between all ages and languages while promoting lifelong learning, literacy, and literary leisure, thereby enabling users to succeed anytime, anyplace, on any path at any pace.

Your library: the “easy button” to timely, relevant resources for all your information needs. (Substitute “quick easy fix button” for “easy button” in case of copyright problems.)

Technology – We are a technological hub, committing ourselves to providing seamless connections and equitable access to high quality virtual resources.

Diamonds



Diamonds are forever - Ian Fleming
Diamonds are forever, my youth is not - Jill St. John

I never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back - Zsa Zsa Gabor
Diamonds never leave you....men do! - Shirley Bassey

Big girls need big diamonds - Elizabeth Taylor



Ladies, need a little sparkle and pizzazz in your life?
Gentlemen, looking for a gift that never goes out of style?

The Regional Library Systems will be raffling a pair of diamond studs at the Fall Conference in October and you could be the lucky winner of some prime bling. You can contact your system office for tickets or get some at the conference. \$3 each or two for \$5. Please make checks payable to NRLS.



Eastern Library System Board Meetings

August 8th – Neihardt Center, Bancroft

October 10th – Sump Memorial Library, Papillion

December 12th – Keene Memorial Library, Fremont

February 13th – Kripke Jewish Federation Library

April 10th – Buffet Middle School, Omaha

Annual Meeting in June at UNO

System News

Fremont

Keene Memorial Library held it's "Lemonade on the Lawn" this year featuring *The String Beans* during John C. Fremont Days.

Omaha

This year's Teen Poetry Bash will be held on September 14th from 1-5 pm at the Omaha Public Library Main Branch—215 S. 15th Street. Cash prizes will be given for both online entries and live readings. Go to www.omahapubliclibrary.org for more information.

&

Roscoe Ricketts, third-grader at Oakdale Elementary School saved his allowance until he was able to donate \$50 to Omaha Public Library. "I gave my money to the library because I really love to read and I want other kids to have good books, too." When he grows up, Roscoe wants to be a librarian and a hot-rod builder. [Sounds like an interesting combination.]

Ceresco Community Library is offering classes every Saturday afternoon this fall on a variety of topics and interests—Spanish, scrapbooking, stamping, fall yard flowers, knitting, crocheting, and basic quilting are just some of the classes.

Lyons Public Library will help the city celebrate it 150th anniversary next year and is already making plans for their blue grass festival.

Waterloo

The public library endured four feet of water in their basement during the recent storms. Thankfully, many volunteers helped to clean up the mess.

What's Happening at Summer Reading Programs



Valparaiso

The library ended their SRP with an afternoon movie night where they showed "Bug's Life," and served popcorn with M&Ms and little cans of soda pop.

They had a great year with 15 kids attending each week. Lots of volunteer help made things run smooth. One of their high school students put together bound activity/color books that were given to each participant as a thank you gift. Movie night may become a monthly tradition at the library.

Papillion

Sump Library hosted an American Girl Party and it was a smashing success. Sandi Belfi planned for one program of 25 and registration filled within a few hours. Due to the demand, another session was filled too. They had refreshments from Wheatfield's that included Kirsten's ginger water, Felicity's gingerbread men and Milly's banana bread. Crafts were Kirsten's Calico Cat, Josefina's name card, and Samantha's flower basket.

Blair

Gayle Roberts, youth services librarian and the Blair Public Library, wanted to share this experience with everyone.

"Dana College has a bug program that is FANTASTIC. We had a beehive, hissing cockroaches, ant farm, vinegaroon bug, tarantula, butterflies and spittle bugs ... plus, the kids got to take part in being bees themselves, and we had our own hive (yep ... even a queen bee; I got to wear the tiara!!!! Kids and parents took part) It was very interactive, and the presenters included Professor Karen Murch-Shafer from Dana, Tony and Beth from the Henry Doorly Zoo and Roger, a student at Dana. Tony is the beekeeper for the zoo and works in the new butterfly pavilion. The kids got to hold the hissing cockroaches and the vinegaroon, and fed the butterflies off their fingers. They got to pet the tarantula as well. It was GREAT fun and parents were still calling in by the time I left at 5:00 to say what fun the kids had!!!! We had a total of 83 take part; 63 at the actual presentation and twenty walk-throughs by the end."

A brave boy!
What's a Vinegaroon?



More SRP News

Snyder

The Snyder Public Library held its summer reading program for 2 hours each day for one week in June. The attendance increased each day as the word got around that the treats were good and the projects were fun. They are already talking about next year's SRP.

Dodge

"Hooray for Honeybees" day at the John Rogers Library featured the local dentist, Dr. Ortmeier, who brought his beekeeping equipment, a honeycomb and answered lots of questions from the 33 kids there.

LaVista Public Library had 49 teens involved in the summer reading program along with 26 teen volunteers. One innovative program held was a dance workshop put on by the Omaha Playhouse. Library director, Rose Iwan, has been asked to be a member of the Regional Advisory Board for the program of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Mid-Continental Region. It is a 2-year term that includes advising to improve consumers' access to biomedical information, review and evaluate RML programs in the regions, and recommending ways to best communicate with public libraries.

Oakland Public Library held Wednesday night movie nights and a Saturday mornings craft times during their summer reading program. Bill Kloeffkorn will be presenting a program on his book *Restoring the Burnt Child* in August.

Wahoo Public Library Friends are treating the kids to a concert by the *String Beans*, a high-energy band from Lincoln, on the lawn of the Wahoo Public Library. In addition to the concert, kids from the summer reading program will be treated to hot dogs and chips.

Ashland

The Ashland Public Library decorated the outside of their library with bugs, not insects but a Volkswagen Beetle Car - six of them.



Eastern Library System Board Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2008—Bellevue University

Present: Robin Bernstein, Jan Therien, Scott Berryman, Carrie Turner, Dorothy Willis, John Seyfarth, Denise Lawver, Lupe Mier, Joyce Neujahr, Sam McMullen, Marie Reidelbach, Kathy Tooker.

President Denise Lawver called the meeting to order.

The minutes from the February 8, 2008, board meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

The treasurer's reports for February, March, April and May, 2008, were reviewed. The reports will be filed for audit.

Kathy gave the administrator's report. See written report. The Dodge County Board of Supervisors will put on the November ballot a vote to tax non-incorporated areas for library service. Kathy discussed the Future Search Conference; a task force that will continue to meet.

The Gateway computer from the ELS office was given away to Alegent Bergen Medical Center.

Committee reports:

Continuing Education: Robin reported on workshops and training done in 2007-2008.

Nominating Committee: Becky reported on retiring board members: Lupe Mier, Sam McMullen and Becky Sims. Newly elected board members are: Lowen Kruse, Rosa Schmidt, and Gayle Roberts.

Technology: John reported that three technical workshops were done in 2007-2008. The system computers and software we updated.

Fundraising: Sam reported that the three fundraising events – Chocolate Basket, Spring Fling and Bird House Auction raised \$2,150.00.

Executive: The committee met and evaluated the administrator and set salary increase for the next FY.

New Business: The following board officers were elected by unanimous ballot: President – John Seyfarth

Vice President – Robin Bernstein

Secretary – Marie Reidelbach

Treasurer – Scott Berryman

The gaming equipment policy was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy. Motion carried.

The 2008-2009 budget was presented and discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be August 8, 2008, at the Neihardt Center, Bancroft.

Grand Opening

The new South Omaha Library, a joint venture between Metropolitan Community College and Omaha Public Library held its opening celebration on July 12th. The library/college is at 2808 Q St.



If you've wondered what Verne Haselwood is doing—he was at the Grand Opening

Neihardt Day Celebration - August 3rd

The 43rd annual celebration of Nebraska's Poet Laureate will be held at the John G. Neihardt State Historic Site in Bancroft, Nebraska on **Sunday, August 3th**. The theme for this year's celebration focuses on the people Neihardt wrote of who lived along the great Missouri River; Natives, trappers, traders, riverboat captains and travelers. The main program features **Nancy Peterson** of Centennial, Colorado, author of *People of the Old Missury*, *People of the Moonshell*, *People of the Troubled Waters*, and most recently, *Walking in Two Worlds: Mixed-Blood Indian Women Seeking Their Path*. Peterson will speak about the "successive cavalcade of fearless men and women who penetrated the far west" as well as those who were already there. Focusing on such characters as the trapper John Colter, Mormon migrant Jane Richards, and Native women such as Susette and Susan LaFlesche, the stories are brought together to help define a time and place which shaped America's history. Historian Dean Krakel of the High Plains Heritage Society in South Dakota describes Peterson's books as a 'reassembling' of those characters tied to the Missouri and Platte rivers during the 19th century, "the artery and soul, the life blood" of communities and commerce, for both the indigenous original inhabitants and in-comers. Making the tie between these stories and those told by Neihardt will be **Tim Anderson**, Professor of Journalism at UN-L and authorized Neihardt biographer. He will excerpt portions of Neihardt's writings about the Missouri and Platte Rivers describing the same groups of people and how he saw their roles in what he called America's epic adventure. An added pleasure will be of Native American flute music by Garan Coons, founder of the Many Moccasins dance troupe and accomplished flute maker and performer.

The day's activities begin with a **Neihardt Foundation Board of Directors** meeting at 10:30, then a public **General Membership** meeting at 12:00 PM. The main presentation begins at 1:30 PM. Lunch will be sold from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM for picnicking on the grounds. Some bleacher seating is provided; bring lawn chairs. Books, art work, and gift items will be on sale all day; Peterson's books available for purchase and signing.

Program is free and open to the public and is partially funded by the Nebraska Humanities Council. The Neihardt Site is 306 W. Elm St, Bancroft, NE. For information, call 402-648-3388 or 1-888-777-4667.



Nebraska
Humanities
Council

Copyright Law

By Phyllis Brunken

This article is the four of a six-part series on copyright for educators and public librarians.

Part IV – Book Covers

How may book covers be used without infringement of copyright depends on various factors: is this for instructional purposes, use of first sale doctrine, remain in classroom, or published on the web with or with a password?



Two basic guidelines apply: 1. If the book is owned which includes the book cover, you may use the physical property for display during book talks, on bulletin boards or other presentations. 2. For use of photocopies or digital copies of the book cover contact the publisher for permission to use the book cover or any part of the book.

Some publishers will give permission for educational use on their website or in the copyright notice in their books. Attaching a copy of the permission to the copy of the book cover that is being used or maintaining a file of the permission statements is recommended in the event that the fair use is challenged.

The Random House Permission website (<http://www.randomhouse.com/about/permissions.html>) is an excellent example of the request for permission process. A permission form is available to download or print. Two factors to keep in mind: a. Permission must be requested by mail or fax (rarely email is accepted) and b. Allow sufficient time for the request to be processed.

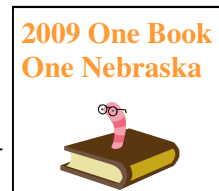
Students may apply Fair Use in order to include book covers as part of their assigned project whether it is in paper or digital format. A teacher may also apply Fair Use to utilize the book cover when it used for instructional purposes with students. This is an educational application of Fair Use. The infringement might occur when the pres-

entation is posted on the web and is not password protected. When posting to the web, this constitutes world wide distribution of the copyright protected materials. Whenever the book cover is used, citing the book cover not only includes the author and publisher information but must also include the illustrator and, in some cases, the book cover artist.

For more discussion of the use of book covers, see **COPYRIGHT CATECHISM** by Carol Simpson, Linworth Publishers, 2005, pages 60, 62, 64, 65, 67 and 69.

Please send an email to me if you want a complete bibliography of my recommended copyright law resources or have a copyright law question. Phyllis Brunken pbrunken@cox.net I am not an attorney and this article may not be substituted for formal legal advice from an attorney well versed in school law and copyright law.

The Nebraska Center for the Book invites recommendations for the **2009 One Book One Nebraska** book selection. The Nebraska Center for the Book will consider books written by a Nebraska author (living or dead/with current or former residence in the state), or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. Books should have a broad appeal to readers across Nebraska and lend well to group discussion. Books may be fiction, non-fiction, biography, memoir or poetry. They should be in print and readily available. The Center for the Book strongly suggests that anyone who nominates a text should have read it.



Book recommendations should be sent via e-mail to mnehls@nlc.state.ne.us by **August 1**. Recommendations may also be sent to The Nebraska Center for the Book, c/o Nebraska Library Commission 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508.

The Nebraska Center for the Book will announce the **2009 One Book One Nebraska** choice in October.

For information about the **One Book One Nebraska** program, including current and previous book selections, go to <http://www.onebookonenebraska.org>



Mad Hatter Award

The School, Children's and Young People's Section of NLA is accepting nominations for

the Mad Hatter Award 2008. This award is given annually to a member of the Nebraska Library Profession who has made an outstanding contribution to School, Children's and Young People's librarianship and library development.

The recipient will be selected on the basis of all of the following criteria:

1. Imaginative interpretation of library services
2. Development of innovative and creative programming for children and young adults
3. Demonstration of professional contributions to regional, state, and national library organizations, publications, and/or presentations



The nominee MUST be a member of the School, Children's and Young People's Section of NLA.

The nomination form can be found at: <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/SCYP/MHnomform.pdf>

Send nominations to Marci Retzlaff by August 1, 2008.

Marci Retzlaff
Norfolk Public Library
308 Prospect Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701

Nationally known, award-winning authors Douglas Wood, Cynthia Lord and Han Nolan will appear at **Norfolk Public Library's 14th Annual Literature Festival on Saturday, July 26th, at Northeast Community College's Lifelong Learning Center.**



Douglas Wood

Nothing To Do by Douglas Wood is nominated for a 2009 Nebraska Golden Sower Award. *Nothing To Do* explores the myriad of things there are to do—to explore, to dream, to discover—when there's *Nothing To Do*. The reader discovers that sometimes the unscheduled time can

be the most important time of all and that it is possible to find an infinite number of interesting things to do on

those unscheduled days—something that is becoming less frequent in a child's life...or adults for that matter!

Douglas Wood (a native of Sioux City, Iowa) has been called Minnesota's "renaissance man" - author, artist, musician, naturalist, wilderness guide. As a writer of books for children and adults he has nearly two million copies in print, including the classics *Old Turtle* and *Grandad's Prayers of the Earth*. Among his many honors and awards have been the Christopher Medal, ABBY Award, International Reading Association Book of the Year, Minnesota Book Award, Midwest Publishers Association Book of the Year, Parent's Choice Award, Barnes and Noble Star of the North, and Story Telling World Award.

As a musician, Douglas writes music featuring vocals, 6 and 12 string guitars, piano, fiddle, mandolin, and banjo. In the early 70s, Douglas played with *The Smoke Ring*. In performances and speaking engagements across the country, Douglas continues to reach audiences of all ages with his superb blend of music and storytelling, personal warmth, light-hearted humor, and the rare ability to lift the human spirit.

Mr. Wood is from Sartell, Minnesota. Discover more about Douglas Wood at <http://www.douglaswood.com/>

Also appearing and giving presentations at this year's Festival will be authors Cynthia Lord of Brunswick, Maine and Han Nolan of Salem, Virginia. Lord (*Rules*) and Nolan (*A Summer of Kings*) are also 2009 Nebraska Golden Sower Award nominees.

This year's Literature Festival will also feature previews of the thirty books nominated for the 2009 Golden Sower Awards; book displays and sales by the Norfolk Library Foundation; sales of Golden Sower items; an autograph session with the authors; and, door prizes.

The Nebraska Library Commission will award five CE hours to all Nebraska school and public librarians who attend the Festival.

Advance tickets for the Festival are available at Norfolk Public Library OR by mail order. For more information, call Karen or Marci at 844-2100.

Speaker Available [from *Straight-Talk*, the newsletter of the Northeast Library System]

Leslie J. Seymore, Fair Housing Investigator, would love to come to your library and speak about fair housing. If interested, please contact Leslie at 1-800-669-3247 or by email at leslies@phasinc.org

Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

Welcome back to all school media specialists; we hope you had a great summer. The public librarians tell me they saw many of your students this year for their many and varied summer reading program activities. If you are new to a school media center or to a public library, take time to connect with each other as collaboration and cooperation provides great benefits both for you and the kids. And remember to contact the System office if we can help in any way or if you have news you would like to share in our newsletter.

Puppet Tales Newsletter

With each issue of Puppet Tales, librarians can click and print a new collection of great ideas, tips & tricks to enrich their storytelling. Puppet Tales showcases program, products & ideas to jump-start your Story Time. You can even gather the issues together in a binder for a great reference to use all year long. And the best part, it is free online at www.misterandersons.com/puppettales/index.html. [Seen in *Meridian Monitor*, June/July 2008]

YALSA 2008 Teens' Top Ten Nominations

Teens' Top Ten is a "teen choice" list, where teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year. Nominators are members of teen book groups in 15 school and public libraries around the country. Choices are voted on during Teen Read Week held October 12-18, 2008. Promotional materials are available to use at your school or library. For more information go to www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/teenstopten.cfm.

More Book Bag Selections

The book bags for kids have been very popular, both with school and public libraries book discussion groups. ELS now has 26 titles on its web page at www.elsne.org for you to select from. The new ones up are *Petey* by Ben Mikaelson and *New Moon* by Stephanie Meyer. It is helpful if you are requesting a certain title to do so well in advance of when it is to be used. It also helps if you have another selection that would work. We will try our best to see that you get the books when you want them, so it is important that you return them as soon as possible.

Library Sparks and More

The System office routes magazines you might be interested in as the only cost to you is the postage to send it on. If you would like us to add you to the routing list for any of these titles, please let us know.

- *Book List*
- *Book Links*
- *School Library Journal*
- *Library Sparks*
- *VOYA*

For a complete list of all magazine titles, visit our web page at www.elsne.org.

Golden Sower Award winners!

Primary

Winner: *The Great Fuzz Frenzy* by Janet Stevens & Susan Stevens Crummel, illus. Janet Stevens
Honor: *Mrs. McBloom, Clean Up Your Classroom!* by Kelly DiPucchio
Tooth Fairy's First Night by Anne Bowen, illus. Jon Berkeley

Intermediate

Winner: *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney
Honor: *The Stupendous Dodgeball Fiasco* by Janice Repka, illus. Glin Dibley
The SOS File by Betsy Byars, Betsy Duffey, and Laurie Myers

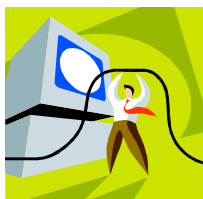
Young Adult

Winner: *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
Honor: *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld
The Perfect Shot by Elaine Marie Alphin

The winning authors have been notified and were delighted to get the news. Janet Stevens, Susan Stevens Crummel, and Betty G. Birney are planning to attend the NLA/NEMA Conference in Lincoln on October 17, 2008, to receive their awards. Unfortunately, Rick Riordan is already booked somewhere else that week and will not be able to attend the conference. [Kathy Schultz Golden Sower Award Committee Chair]

Youth Services Retreat September 11-12

The only way to truly "raise a reader" is simply to allow kids to read—whatever interests them and without restrictions. - Pat Scales, school librarian and president elect of ALSC.



Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Announces Internet Site Coordinator Search

The Nebraska Library Association seeks an individual with fluency in FTP and HTML, knowledge of Unix and web servers, and demonstrated understanding of the principles of web site design and organization. This individual must have access to hardware and software necessary to fulfill the job responsibilities of Internet Site Coordinator. Library education coursework and experience with the Nebraska Library Association is preferred.

Duties of the NLA Internet Site Coordinator include, but are not limited to the following:

- Create a visual layout consistent with the principles of good web design.
- Update web site content within 5-10 days of notification, or solicit updates from NLA members as necessary.
- Install and support membership software, Memberclicks in particular. Maintain member and board email groups and assist with maintenance of member records.
- Maintain current links to web sites maintained by others, including NLA sections and round tables. Arrange for space on the host server for each section and round table as needed, and provide technical support and/or maintenance of these sites as needed.

The Internet Site Coordinator will receive a stipend that is determined annually by the Executive board of NLA. Depending on experience and qualifications, the beginning stipend will range between \$150.00 to \$175.00 per month, to be paid the first of each month for the previous month's work.

Prior to submitting a resume, please refer to a detailed job description posted on the NLA web site at <http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/isc.htm>

Anticipated start date is November 1, 2008. The position will be open until filled. Review of applications will begin immediately, however.

Please e-mail your resume with a list of references and cover letter to Lisa Olivigni, NLA President, lolivi-gni@crete-ne.gov Attachments may be sent either in MS Word or PDF.

Louise A. Nixon & Duane Munson Scholarship 2008 Recipients

The Nebraska Library Association Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2008 recipients of the Louise A. Nixon and Duane Munson Scholarships.

The Louise A. Nixon Scholarship winners are:

Karl Wirth of Omaha
Mindy Rush Chipman of Bennett
Rochelle Krueger of Kearney

The winner of the Duane Munson Scholarship is:
Nancy Voris of Papillion

Congratulations to the 2008 Nixon and Munson Scholarship winners!

NLA/NEMA Convention is Coming

It's not too early to be thinking about the Annual Fall Conference, October 15-17, 2008, at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln.

[Conference Information](#)

[Hotel Information](#)

Join your colleagues for one of these fantastic pre-conferences to the 2008 NLA/NEMA Annual Conference on Wednesday, October 15. -

www.nebraskalibraries.org/conference/2008/pre/

The 4 Rs: Robots, Romance, Revolvers and Recipes
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sponsored by the Nebraska Regional Library Systems - **[Registration Form](#)**

What is a Book Worth? Determining the Value of a Book
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Technical Services Round Table

Serving Library Customers With Disabilities
1:00-4:00 p.m. Sponsored by the NLA Diversity Committee

[International Quilt Museum Gala](#)

Wednesday, Oct. 15th—7:30 pm

[Casino Royale](#)

A night of fun on Thursday, Oct. 16th after the Banquet

Worth Checking Out

A Wii We Go

The Nebraska Regional Library Systems received a 2008 Library Improvement Grant from the Nebraska Library Commission to purchase gaming equipment and software to lend to libraries to use in their libraries. Each system has purchased a Wii gaming kit that contains the Wii console, two controllers, two nunchucks, and an easy set up guide.

In addition to the software included with the Wii kit (boxing, golfing, tennis, and bowling), ELS also has purchased Dance Dance Revolution Hottest Party Game, Mario and Sonic at the Olympic Games, and Mario Kart Game. You can use any of them or your own software.

Plus, we each system office has a copy of *Gamers in the Library: The Why, What, and How of Videogame Tournaments of All Ages* by Eli Neiburger.

While gaming is a good way to attract tweens and teens to your library, gaming is appropriate for any age. The average age of a gamer is 34. Wii tournaments are popular activities at retirement and nursing home centers.

Benefits of video gaming include:

- Develop a new form of literacy. Literacy is the ability to rapidly decode abstract meaning from symbols. Instead of the alphabet, the set of symbols in a video game can be anything.
- Develop spatial reasoning. Very useful for pilots and surgeons.
- Gaming is a social activity.
- Teaches critical thinking skills.

To reserve the Wii, call the system office. Application form is on page 12 and our web page at www.elsne.org.

CHIRS and Go Local Make a Difference

CHIRS (Consumer Health Information Resource Service) and Go Local Nebraska, a web database of local health information services and providers, a cooperative initiative with the National Library of Medicine, do make a difference in the lives of Ne-



braskans. Sponsored by the University of Nebraska Medical Center's McGoogan Library of Medicine, these services can be accessed by anyone in the state at no cost. Check online at www.unmc.edu/consumer or call 402-559-6221 / 866-899-5209 outside Omaha. Here is one testimonial to the service provided by CHIRS/Go Local.

My father has a rare disease. I needed to find the singular specialist in Omaha for a second opinion and treatment consultation. But who and how would I find this doctor? Could there even be someone in our area? I emailed my request to Teresa Hartman at Go Local Nebraska, and within hours I had the name of a doctor with the subspecialty in neurology. Within a few days, were sitting in his office. We are most grateful to the medical librarians at the McGoogan Library who know everything! You just have to ask.

Discarded and Unwanted Books

What to do with those weeded, discarded and unwanted books? Due to space limitations, all libraries are faced with this problem. Maura McGrath, a Colorado State Library staffer and library student, researched the topic and has put together a great resource. To interlibrary loan a copy of this resource, call the system office.

Web Sites Worth Visiting

Shelf Awareness <www.shelf-awareness.com>

is a good source for when people saw a book on TV or heard it on the radio. Also has information on books being made into movies and television shows.

Altavista's Babelfish: <www.altavista.com/help/fee/free_searchbox_trans> allows you to type in a URL and have the webpage translated from/into several languages. From English, it can translate to Chinese (simple and traditional), Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Other language combinations are also available. [Seen in *More Than*

"Opportunity often comes disguised in overalls and looking like work"



Bit & Pieces

Job Search

The Republican Valley Library System, headquartered in Hastings, Nebraska, is seeking a new director. Current director, Sherry Houston, is moving to the Omaha area and will be working in a school media center there. See the following job posting for details on the position and how to apply: <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/scripts/jobbank/JobShow.asp?JobID=1204>

New at the Nebraska Library Commission

John Felton has been appointed to the NLC's Planning and Data Services Coordinator position. John's responsibilities will include coordination of state-wide library data collection. The position was formerly held by Kit Keller. John will also be responsible for annual survey revisions, communicating and consulting with libraries, training, and preparation of reports based on library data and trends.

CE and Training Grants

The Continuing Education and Training Grant information can be found at <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/conedgrants/cegrant08/index.html> the applications are due Monday, August 4th by 5 p.m.

Cheerios Challenge

The "What Book Got You Hooked?" campaign was held again this year. Alas, Nebraska came in second place again, but the good news is that means 20,000 books will be given to children in the state. Read Aloud Nebraska will be distributing the books. Thanks to all who participated.



The Bad News.....

Sherry Houston, Republican Valley System Administrator for the past three years, has resigned her position. She has been great to work with, always ready to do more than her share, plus fun. We will miss her. **And now the good news.....**Sherry is moving to the metro area and will be the new media specialist at Birchcrest Elementary in Bellevue.

Annual Meeting Pictures



The Bird House auction was a great success. Thank you to all the artists.



Becky Sims and Becky Pasco



Sam McMullen
&
Tammy Lorenz

Jim Bothmer
&
Joy Winkler



Scott Berryman
Lowen Kruse
John Seyfarth

ELS Board
Members

Trustee Column

[seen in *ICFL News*, the Idaho Commission on Libraries Newsletter, May/June 2008]

Patrons Judge Libraries by Their Covers

Before you step into the library, or one of the branches, for a board meeting take a minute to reflect on the message the building presents to the public. Are the grounds inviting? Is there a bench or two for those waiting for a ride or looking for a relaxing spot to read before venturing home? Is the library visually appealing? Are posters haphazardly taped to walls? Are announcements on the bulletin board outdated?

Does the library show irony by filling the entry with donated and weeded books piled up for sale and then offering a world of information for free? The few dollars generated from those sales creates a poor image of who we are as librarians and what libraries are about.

How does the shelving look? One inexpensive way to enrich the appearance is to find a few sheets of pine or oak plywood and a volunteer or two who will fit them to the width of the shelves, sand and stain them, and bolt them to the unit end for an attractive low cost update. Then you have a location for artwork, signage, or a simple clean space.

A big investment is required when you look at the carpet, wall paint, and furniture, but a coordinated investment with a contemporary look can show professionalism, and show the community that the library is vital, lively, and a welcoming community facility—all important to encourage future support.

As one of the Ghostbusters said in the movie, “no matter what happens let’s look professional.” We all need an occasional fresh look at ourselves.



Ethics Statement for Public Library Trustees

[www.ala.org/ala/alta/links/ethicsstatement.pdf]

- Trustees in the capacity of trust upon them, shall observe ethical standards with absolute truth, integrity and honor.
- Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues, or the situation.
- It is incumbent upon any trustee to disqualify himself/herself immediately whenever the appearance of a conflict of interest exists.
- Trustees must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of the institutions, acknowledging the formal position of the board even if they personally disagree.
- A trustee must respect the confidential nature of library business while being aware of and in compliance with applicable laws governing freedom of information.
- Trustees must be prepared to support to the fullest the efforts of librarians in resisting censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.
- Trustees who accept library board responsibilities are expected to perform all of the functions of library trustees.

CLICK Meeting
August 1st - 9:30 am
Gretna Public Library
Please contact Jean Slowinski if
you are coming
jean@cityofgretna.com

**Eastern Library System
Loan Agreement for Nintendo Wii**

The Nebraska Regional Library Systems received an LSTA Grant to purchase Nintendo Wii to use for training demonstrations and loan to libraries. System members may borrow the console and game discs at no cost. The equipment is to be used for staff training. The library that borrows the game system is responsible for its return.

Scheduling will be done on a sign-up basis. Although the System Office will provide routine maintenance, the borrower is financially responsible for loss or damage. If the equipment is mailed, it must be insured for \$400. Borrower is responsible for shipping and insurance changes. Loan time will be limited to two weeks.

Package includes:

- Nintendo game console
- Vertical stand and stand plate
- Sensor bar
- 2 Nunchucks
- 2 Remotes
- AC Adapter cord
- AV Cable
- Operations Manual – System Setup Manual
- Operations Manual – Channel and Setting Manual
- Dance Dance Revolution Hottest Party Game disc, pad and instruction book
- Mario and Sonic at the Olympic Games disc and instruction book
- Mario Kart Game disc, wheel, and instruction book
- Carrying Bag

Borrower's name: _____

Library: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I have read and agree to comply with this policy:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Loan period: _____

Adopted by the Eastern Library System Board of Directors, June 20, 2008.

The 4 R's: Robots, Romance, Revolvers and Recipes

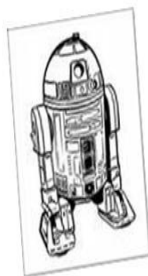
Join us on October 15, 2008 at the Bennett Martin Public Library on 14th and N in Lincoln, Nebraska for a Pre Conference Workshop exploring four different genre's featuring midwest authors. Each author will explain their writing techniques and love for their choice of genre.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and sessions begin at 9:30 a.m.

October 15, 2008 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Bennett Martin Public Library
14th and N
Lincoln, Nebraska
(enter using the "N" street entrance. Go to the auditorium on 4th floor)
Cost \$35.00 per person, lunch included
5 CE Credits

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obots will be our first session beginning at 9:30 until 10:00 a.m. with Kevin J. Anderson. Kevin J. Anderson is the author of more than ninety novels, 43 of which have appeared on national or international bestseller lists. He has over 20 million books in print in thirty languages. He has won or been nominated for numerous prestigious awards, including the Nebula Award, Bram Stoker Award, the SFX Reader's Choice Award, the American Physics Society's Forum Award, and New York Times Notable Book. By any measure, he is one of the most popular writers currently working in the science fiction genre.



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omance is a topic that Victoria Alexander knows well. She will share her knowledge with us from 10:50 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. Victoria Alexander was an award-winning television reporter until she discovered fiction was much more fun than real life. She turned to writing full time and has never looked back. Victoria grew up traveling the country as an Air Force brat and is now settled in a hundred-year-old house in Nebraska with her husband and two teenaged children, and a bearded collie named Sam. She firmly believes housework is a four-letter word, there are no calories in anything eaten standing up, procrastination is an art form, and it's never too soon to panic.

R

evolvers is the title for our mystery session from 10:10 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. with Sean Doolittle. Sean Doolittle grew up in southeastern Nebraska. His first two novels, *Dirt* and *Burn* were published by [UglyTown](#). More recently, *Rain Dogs* was published by Random House/Bantam Dell (2005). His most recent novel is *The Cleanup* (Dell, 2006). His writing was shortlisted for the CWA/Macallen Dagger Award. He won the Gold Medal in *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year Award in 2003 for *Burn*. And *Dirt* was an Amazon.com Top 100 Editor's Pick for 2001. He holds the MA from the University of Nebraska — Lincoln, where he won the Mari Sandoz Prize for his fiction. He lives in Omaha with his wife and daughter.



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ecipes will be presented by Jessica Covi from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.. She will share her experiences in compiling the cookbook "The Toast of Omaha" with the Junior League of Omaha service organization. The Junior League of Omaha is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.



Lunch will be served from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. followed by a Panel Discussion from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will wrap up the workshop with an Autograph Session from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.



The books below are available for pre-purchase. Send order with Registration form.

Registration:
Name: _____
Library: _____
City: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Send check payable to Nebraska
Regional Library Systems and
Registration Form by October 8, 2008
to:
Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 12
Omaha, NE 68144
Email: nrmeyer@alltel.net

Science Fiction



Kevin J. Anderson

___ Crystal Doors:
Sky Realm \$16.99

___ The Ashes of
Worlds \$25.99

___ Paul of Dune
\$25.95

___ The Last Days of
Krypton \$25.95

___ Total

Romance



Victoria
Alexander

___ The Perfect
Wife \$6.99

___ Secrets of a
Proper Lady
\$6.99

___ Seduction of a
Proper Gentle-
man \$6.99

___ Total



Mystery
Sean
Doolittle

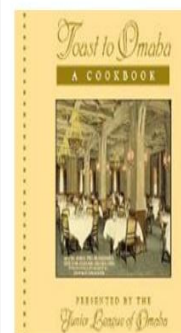
___ The
Clean up
\$6.99

___ Rain
Dogs
\$6.99

Non-Fiction



Cookbook
Jessica Covi
___ Toast to
Omaha: A
Cookbook
\$24.95



___ Total



Bring your money, your skill, and your luck
for a night of fun that benefits the Legacy Fund.

Thursday night after the Banquet, or at 9 p.m., whichever's earliest,
come join us in the Arbor Room to play
poker, roulette, bingo, craps, and blackjack.



And for an extra dose of
glamour, you can dress 007 style,
“like a man (or woman) who
belongs at [the] table.”

So pull out your ritziest evening
wear, your exotic foreign accents, and
come try your luck! Of course you're
welcome to come mingle and be one of
the beautiful people even if you don't
want to play.



It will be \$5 for 25 chips
with similar rules to last
year's gaming event.



Cash Bar

Only at 2008's NLA/NEMA Conference in Lincoln on October 16!

Upcoming Events

August 1 - CLICK Meeting, 9:30 am - Gretna Public Library
August 8 - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am - Neihardt Center, Bancroft
August 11 - NLLI Reunion, Schuyler, St. Benedict's Center
August 12—NEBASE Annual Meeting, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln
August 18—Return on Investment (ROI) Training, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont
August 20—Nebraska Library Commission Database Roadshow, Metropolitan Community College; contact Jeanette Powell, 800-307-2665; jpowell@nlc.state.ne.us

September 11-12 - Youth Service Retreat, Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center, Ashland

October 10 - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am - Sump Memorial Library, Papillion

October 15—NLA/NEMA Preconferences (see pages 15-16)

October 16-17 - NLA/NEMA Fall Conference, Lincoln (see page 10)

October 30—Basic Skills Class, Administration—Elkhorn Branch, Omaha Public Library

November 6 & 13—Basic Skills Class, Administration, Elkhorn Branch, Omaha Public Library

Check out the Nebraska Library Commission's web page calendar for a schedule of events. <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libcal/libcal.html>

For more information on any of these events, call the System Office